



- To magnify and glorify God in worship, prayer and praise.
- To fellowship, nurture and disciple all members and visitors in the ways of life based on Biblical teachings.
- To take Jesus Christ, His Word, and His Love to all people in our community and the world.

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Fall is my favorite time of the year. I am not a lover of the summer heat. I enjoy the cooler mornings (and hopefully sometime in October the cooler afternoons!). Yes, we do like our "pumpkin spice" coffee (and other things as well). I miss the fall colors, living where we do, but have opportunity to go to the mountains for an annual ministers' study group. I like the association with the harvest, even as we are likely more disconnected from the farming cycle than most of our ancestors were.

Fall is also the time when things pick up again in our congregation after the quieter summer season, at least as church activities go. In the pages of this newsletter, you will see all the things going on in the life of Oak Island EPC, and a call for you to participate in them.

The Fall is also the season in which our annual stewardship campaign takes place. Each year we ask members and friends of the church to consider a pledge of what they plan to give in the coming year so that we may have an idea of what the ministry of the congregation will look like, and thus, better plan for the year. Our congregation has been blessed by the members and friends of the church. In the last year we have had some major projects, above and beyond the regular budget of the church. In addition to that we have carried out a lot of repairs and updates to our building in recent years, and continue to maintain it (no small feat!) through the regular giving of the congregation. Our mission support helps to cover missionaries scattered from Peru to western Asia, from southern Africa to northern Europe, as well as here in Brunswick County.

In our weekly worship, the central thing that we do as the people of God, we worship God drawing from the best gifts of our congregation, in singing, in music, the often unnoticed work of those who work on the sound board to amplify our voices so all might hear, to those who work to make sure our service is streamed to others who cannot be with us in person on Sunday morning. At the center of it all is our gathering around God's Word and the Table of Christ, for our Lord Jesus Christ makes himself known to us in Word and Sacrament.

All of these things require upkeep—whether it is our musical instruments, the equipment we use for sound and for streaming. We have missionaries who depend on our support. In addition, we are a part of a larger family, the Presbytery of the Coastal Mid-Atlantic and the Evangelical Presbyterian Church.

Please consider what you might be able to share with us in 2027, and consider making a pledge to help us as we plan our work of ministry. God has richly blessed our church through the hands of his people here, and for that I am grateful. As I have entered into my 20<sup>th</sup> year of ministry with you here at Oak Island EPC, I know the graciousness and generosity of this congregation, and remain grateful to serve with you here.



# October

**October 4:** Communion

“Re-Membering”: Psalm 25:1-10; 1 Cor. 11:23-26: What does it mean to “remember”? All too often, to remember means little more than “fond recollection.” But what does it mean to “remember” what Christ has done for us when we come to his Table? What does it mean when the Psalms call upon God himself to remember us?

Hymns: 381 Brethren, We Have Met to Worship  
423 According to Thy Gracious Word  
431 A Parting Hymn We Sing

**October 11:** “Rejoice in the Lord Always”: Philippians 4:2-9: As the Letter to the Philippians begins to come to a close, Paul gives a “charge” to the congregation, a common feature of his letters in the New Testament.

Hymns: 13 O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord  
310 Rejoice, the Lord Is King  
604 Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

**October 18:** “God Will Supply”: Philippians 4:10-23: In his closing words to the Philippians, Paul emphasizes to them that the provisions of God for us in life and death are sufficient. He will provide us what we need. Paul weaves this in with the fact that the Philippians, as a part of God’s sure provision, have also supplied him.

Hymns: 53 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty  
95 Though Troubles Assail Us  
Insert: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

**October 25:** Reformation Sunday: “Old and New”: Luke 5:33-39: Dr. Taylor will begin a series of sermons taken from the parables of Jesus as recorded in the Gospel of Luke. The first parable in Luke is about whether the old can contain the new: the patch of clothing and the wine and wineskins. Can Jesus fit into the religion or worldview we bring to him?

Hymns: 1 Psalm 100: All People That on Earth Do Dwell  
92 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God  
614 Psalm 124: Now Israel May Say





## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Our Adult Sunday School meets on Sunday mornings, from 9:15 AM until 10:00 AM. We want to invite you to join us! Sunday School gives you a great opportunity to grow in faith and knowledge and to get to know others in our congregation better.

Pastor Walter Taylor is continuing the study of the Book of Psalms through the month of October. After that we will study what the Gospel narratives tell us about the birth of Jesus.

We are looking for people interested in teaching a four- to eight-week study in 2027. Whether you are interested in teaching about a Bible book, church history, or a topic related to our life as Christians, the Nurture Committee would love to hear from you! Talk to our Assistant Pastor, Agnes Taylor or committee chair Amanda Jackway, and they will share your name and ideas with the committee!

## PRE-SERVICE PRAYER MEETING

After Sunday School, we have our weekly Pre-Service Prayer Meeting. Our prayers are focused on God's glory, our worship service, and our spiritual growth as a congregation.

Everyone is invited to join: elders, deacons, church members and regular attendees! Whether you have previously participated in a church prayer meeting or not, please join us, even if it is to pray silently.

Psalm 29:2 – “Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.”

Hebrews 12:28 – “Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe.”

## GENEROUSLY REFORMED STUDY

Meets on the Third Sunday of the month at 5:00 PM.

The Generously Reformed Study is a study/discussion group based on the recently published book *Generously Reformed: Theology Rooted Deep and Reaching Wide* (Baker Academic: 2026, 216 pages). This book was written by three very good Reformed theologians from very different places, yet who share in a love of Christ, his Church and the Reformed Tradition: Todd Billings, Suzanne McDonald, and Alberto La Rosa Rojas.

*Generously Reformed* is a good read, but a book that needs to be read slowly and probed (thus we will meet once a month). It is not too late to join! If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Taylor.

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We want to invite you to be a part of our Children's Church ministry! Choose a Sunday to assist a Children's Church leader!

There is a sign-up sheet in the Children's Church room, the last room on the left side of the Fellowship Hall. We use award-winning *Jesus Storybook Bible*, written by Sally Lloyd-Jones and illustrated by Jago. The *Jesus Storybook Bible* curriculum helps children discover the story beneath all the stories in the Bible: God's great story of salvation. They are invited to discover for themselves that Jesus is at the center of this great story and at the center of their story as well. Come and discover for yourself how every Bible story whispers Jesus' name!



## Men's *Home* Bible Study Group

Every other Wednesday

8:30 a.m.— 9:30 a.m.

Mrocze's home: 305 Lord Thomas Avenue/Southport

Newcomers and visitors to OIEPC are welcome to join our small group to enjoy the fellowship, coffee and desserts with us. We plan to meet on 10/14, 10/28 before taking a break prior to the men's retreat and the holiday season.

Contact Dirk Mroczek: mroczek.dirk@gmail.com if you have any questions.



## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

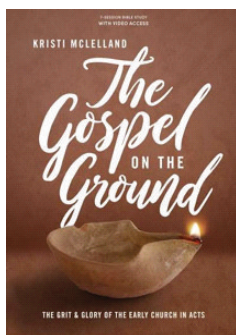
**MONDAY's at 7:00 PM - Disciples Room**

Join biblical culturalist Kristi McLelland as she unpacks the life of the early church in the book of Acts in her Bible study: *Gospel on the Ground: The Grit & Glory of the Early Church in Acts*. Kristi is a wonderful Bible teacher, with a great knowledge of Jewish culture in the time of Jesus.

For the vast majority of his life, Jesus never travelled outside of a one-hundred-mile radius from where he was born, but today his name is spoken in every corner of the earth. *The Gospel on the Ground* is the story of how Jesus' message of hope and reconciliation began to spread from Jerusalem and how it is still spreading today.

Learn how the kingdom of God is always on the move - always looking outward to bring meaning and joy to a world searching for true fulfillment and hope. Explore the call of Jesus to his disciples then and to us today. See how God's Word can sustain us even in the most difficult of times and embrace the transformative grace we experience as children of God in his kingdom of celebration.

Ladies, we invite you to join the Women's Bible Study, gain new insights and enjoy warm fellowship!



|       |                 |
|-------|-----------------|
| 10/20 | Lexie Knox      |
| 10/23 | Pat Lindsay     |
| 10/24 | Jayke Pell      |
| 10/25 | Sherry Hardison |
| 10/31 | Paula Paxton    |



# ATTENTION MEN!

**NOW at OIEPC:  
Tuesday's  
7 p.m.**



Oct. 6      2:1-29  
Oct. 13     3:1-20  
Oct. 20     3:21-26  
Oct. 27     3:27-31

To learn more about Bible Study Fellowship and the Romans study, visit the following website: [bsfinternational.org](http://bsfinternational.org)  
If you would like to participate in the Romans study or discuss any questions you may have email: Ken Eagle at [ken@morriseagle.com](mailto:ken@morriseagle.com)

## **NURSERY NEEDS**

To provide a safe and welcoming environment for nursery-age children (ages 0 through 3), and to protect the liability of our church, **we need to have two adults (18 years and older) present in our Nursery at all times.**

**Assisting our Nursery Coordinator Keena Knox is easy and fun!** You do NOT have to get on the floor, pick up children or change diapers! Keena will take care of that. What we need is your loving and friendly presence in the Nursery, making children feel welcome and at home. This is a ministry opportunity for women and men, young and old (that is, 18 and older). Many Sundays there will not be any children in the Nursery. In that case you will be able to go to the Sanctuary to hear the sermon, if you want. Otherwise, you can watch the worship service on the TV in the Nursery.



**Please note that if we do not have two adults in the Nursery, we unfortunately cannot provide childcare, which may cause a problem for visiting families!**

There is a sign-up sheet on the small bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall, outside the Nursery. Pick a couple of dates to assist in the Nursery and help us to provide this ministry to families with young children!

## **MEN'S RETREAT IS HEADING FOR THE HILLS**

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6 - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8**

Montreat Conference Center, located in a beautiful mountain setting in western N.C.

Our speaker will be Doug Vinez, a missionary to Zambia and dynamic Bible teacher who has preached and spoken at OIEPC numerous times. Our topic will be "Running the Race." There will be teaching, times for discussion, reflection, relaxing or exploring the trails and surroundings. This is an outstanding opportunity for us to encourage one another and to grow in our own walk with Him.

Give Dirk a call or text @ 910-363-7034 if you have questions.



**FAITH**



**FELLOWSHIP**



**RENEWAL**



**Monday, October 12  
11 am**

Contact:

*Ann Hunt Smith*



Would you like to get to know others in our congregation better and enjoy some good fellowship? Join us on Sundays after the worship service in the Fellowship Hall. We are looking for people willing to provide snacks (and maybe some beverages) for a Sunday! We keep our snacks simple, so you do NOT need to provide lunch! If you are willing to host a Sunday, you can sign up on the Fellowship Time sheet on the long table in the Fellowship Hall. Do you want more information before you commit to a Sunday? Contact our Assistant Pastor, Agnes Taylor, and she will be happy to answer any questions you may have!



**Monthly Meetings:  
Third Wednesday of  
each month.**



Sewing machines were humming from 10 to noon on Wednesday. After working hard, we broke up for lunch and social time.

Our craft mission project in September was adult bibs for Southport Rehab. We made **33 reversible bibs** with crumb catchers. Some brown, some flowers. All bright. These will be presented to Southport Rehab on Oct 2.

Contact Ardene: [ardene03@gmail.com](mailto:ardene03@gmail.com)



**Bring a brown bag  
lunch!**



**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 20 at 10 a.m.**

Our project will be cuddle buddies for the 145 foster kids in Brunswick County. This is a small quilt that surrounds a cute stuffed animal. This will be theirs to keep wherever they go. It will be given at their Christmas party in November.

## MONTHLY REPORTS OF ALL CONTRIBUTIONS

OIEPC

Aug2026

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**August****Contributions Received Year To Date For General Funds** \$ 243,620**Budgeted Monthly** \$ 29,473**General Fund Contribution For August2026** \$ 25,130Special Funds Contributions

Missions General \$ 150

Human Needs \$ 345

Scholarship Fund \$ 50

Doug &amp; Abby Vinez Africa \$ 60

Scott Fogel Netherlands \$ 25

Flower Ministry \$ 100

**Total Special Funds** \$ 730**Total All Funds Received in Aug2026** \$ 25,860

Oak Island

EPC ACTIONS OF THE SESSION

September 16, 2026

Personnel Committee: Rev. Agnes Taylor will be on leave September 21, 2026, and will return on October 21, 2026.

Nurture & Education Committee: Sunday School kick off was on September 13, 2026, with a covered dish lunch following worship service.

Missions Committee: Rev. Sam Kennedy with RUF will preach on November 8, 2026.

Outreach Committee: The Men's Bible Study has resumed.  
A Men's Retreat at Montreat is scheduled for November 6-8, 2026.

Worship Committee: Communion will be held on October 4, 2026, with congregants served in pews.

Stewardship and Finance Committee: Pledge cards were sent this week.

Scholarship Committee: The yard sale netted \$5,062.82.

Nominating Committee: The committee will meet on September 29, 2026.

Clerk's Report: Member, Phyllis Hendrick, died on August 28, 2026.

Presbytery: Elders Patricia Bressler and Phil Johnson will be Commissioners for the Presbytery Meeting in September.

Pastor's Report: Dr. Taylor will attend Foundation for Reformed Theology meeting October 12-16, 2026. Dr. Taylor will take vacation in early November 2026.

Respectfully Submitted, Brenda Hall, Clerk



# **NOVEMBER Newsletter**

## **Due: October 15**

### PRAYER LIST

#### Nursing/Rehab Homes:

Suzan Fogle Southport Health & Rehab Center, #605, 630 Fodale Ave, Southport, NC 28461  
Shelvy Pasour 2780 X-Ray Drive, Gastonia, NC 28054  
Pat Lindsay TerraBella, #B-9, 1125 Leonard Street, Southport, NC 28461

#### Our homebound, hospitalizations, those suffering with long-term illnesses, and other prayer requests:

Chris DeArros; Pat Kelly; Allen Walts; Jose Pena, ongoing health concerns; Nate Winrich (son of Kent Winrich), non-believer; Jim Gerlach, in remission for multiple myeloma; Evelyn Reynolds, hospice; Vickie Potter (friend of Glenda Dennis), cancer treatment; Bob Jenkins, under treatment for cancer; Merle Scherle, under treatment for acute lymphocytic leukemia; Dan Bressler (brother-in-law of Patricia Bressler), ongoing cancer treatment; Glenda Dennis, retina issues; Robin Godwin (cousin of Jane Wydra), has suffered multiple strokes; Sue Jones, cancer treatment; Mark Lemley (brother of Patricia Bressler's neighbor), ongoing cancer treatment; Linda Dorman, recovering from a stroke; Scott Lyon (brother-in-law of Susan and Phil Nazzaro), healing of ongoing health concerns; Laura Sierat (mother of Agnes Taylor), recovering from heart valve surgery; Linda Robinson (mother of Lisa Milligan), cancer; Eli Dew (grandson of Jose and Sandy Pena), continued recovery from serious burns.

If you have a need or prayer request, please call the church office or email us.



All urgent prayer requests will then be shared through email to all church members. This will allow your prayer requests to be shared universally with your church family. Due to privacy laws, hospital admission information is not available to your pastor. **Thank you.**

Rev. Dr. Walter L. Taylor, Pastor  
 Rev. Agnes Taylor, Assistant Pastor  
 Sherry Hardison, Office Administrator  
 Michael Byers, Bookkeeper  
 Donna Winrich, Director of Music  
 Ann Myers, Organist  
 Keena Knox, Nursery Coordinator

Rev.W.L.Taylor@gmail.com  
 oakislandpcdce@gmail.com  
 oakislandpc@gmail.com  
 oiepcbookkeeper@gmail.com  
 donna.winrich@gmail.com

**CHURCH STAFF**

## OAK ISLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



***Friday, October 30***  
***7:00 PM***



The Nurture Committee is inviting you to a fun Bingo Night on Friday, October 30th, at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Snacks will be provided.

We always have a lot of fun playing Bingo! Plus, there will be some gifts for you to win!!! Bring your friends and let's have a great time!

# OAK ISLAND EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ~ 1503 East Oak Island Drive



| Sunday                                                                                                                                                             | Monday                                                                                                                      | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                | Wednesday                                                                                                             | Thursday                 | Friday                                                                                                               | Saturday                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <br><b>4</b><br>9:15 Sunday School<br>10:05 Pre-Service Prayer<br>10:30 Worship | <br><b>5</b><br>7:00 Women's Bible Study | <br><b>6</b><br>6:30 Missions Committee<br>7:00 Men's Community BSF | <br><b>7</b><br>3:00 Choir Practice | <b>1</b><br>8:00 Emmaus  | <b>2</b><br>8:00 Emmaus                                                                                              | <b>3</b><br>9:00 Choir Christmas Prep                                                            |
| <b>11</b><br>9:15 Sunday School<br>10:05 Pre-Service Prayer<br>10:30 Worship                                                                                       | <b>12</b><br>11:00 Martha's Circle<br>7:00 Women's Bible Study                                                              | <b>13</b><br>9:00 Finance Committee<br>7:00 Men's Community BSF                                                                                        | <b>14</b><br>8:30 Men's Home Bible Study<br>3:00 Choir Practice<br>4:00 Deacons Mtng                                  | <b>15</b><br>8:00 Emmaus | <b>16</b><br>8:00 Emmaus                                                                                             | <b>17</b>                                                                                        |
| <b>18</b><br>9:15 Sunday School<br>10:05 Pre-Service Prayer<br>10:30 Worship<br>5:00 Generously Reformed Study                                                     | <b>19</b><br>7:00 Women's Bible Study                                                                                       | <b>20</b><br>10:00 Craft Group<br>7:00 Men's Community BSF                                                                                             | <b>21</b><br>3:00 Choir Practice<br>7:00 Session                                                                      | <b>22</b>                | <b>23</b>                                                                                                            | <b>24</b>                                                                                        |
| <b>25</b><br>9:15 Sunday School<br>10:05 Pre-Service Prayer<br>10:30 Worship                                                                                       | <b>26</b><br>7:00 Women's Bible Study                                                                                       | <b>27</b>                                                                                                                                              | <b>28</b><br>8:30 Men's Home Bible Study<br>3:00 Choir Practice                                                       | <b>29</b>                | <b>30</b><br><br>7:00 Bingo Night | <b>31</b><br> |